

To the Kings Most Excellent Majesty.

The Humble Petition of Elinor James

Humbly sheweth,

THat your poor Petitioner hath been always very Zealous for your Majesties Interest both Spiritual and Temporal, and the Peace of your Kingdoms; but I never was for Popery (as your Majesty well knows) because I know to advance it, is not for your present and eternal Happiness, and it hath been the occasion of all your Troubles, and Kingdoms too, neither is it for the good of the Roman Catholicks; but it will be a great Disturbance to the Peace of all, because it is that Worship that is not True neither in Faith nor Practice; for your Majesty well knows that a Mother hath no power over her Son, no longer than he is a Child, for when he grows up to Manhood, he then governs himself according to his own Wisdom and Discretion, tho sometimes they may yield to their Mothers Perswasions, but generally they fail, as *Solomon* did his Mother; and would your Majesty have Christ as a Child, to be commanded by his Mother, now he hath Triumphed over Death, Hell, and Judgment, and hath taken Possession in Heaven, and sits at the Right Hand of his Father in his Eternal Kingdom of Glory, there to hear the sighs and the groans of them that hath True Faith in him, to make Intercession for them, for he is the only Sacrifice acceptable to God. Therefore, I humbly beseech your Majesty not to promote any thing that robs God of his Honour, and degrades the Son, for that will be high Ingratitude to the most High, since his Providence hath Defended you from all your Dangers, and hath Anointed you King; and how can your Majesty be so unkind as to decline from him, in believing of those things that God never intended? for God never intended that the Virgin *Mary* should be as a God, to have Prayers made to her, for God hath commanded us to Pray unto him in the time of our Trouble, and he will hear, and Christ says, *Ask the Father in my Name, and he will give you whatever is needful for you*; and Christ never intended that his Natural Body should be eaten and drunk, but his Spiritual Body and Blood, that they might by Faith eat and overcome their Sins; and moreover God hath declar'd, that all Souls are his, and that Soul that sins shall Die, and without Charity we cannot be Christians, and what is more Uncharitable than to Judge the Soul. Therefore your Petitioner sees plainly that it is perfect Rebellion to Pray to any thing but to God alone, thro the Merits of Christ, the Premises considered. I humbly beseech your Majesty to use all Pious Endeavours for the preventing of Popery, for the Love of God, and the good of your own Soul, and the Happiness of your Children, and the Peace of your Kingdoms, and in so doing, your Majesty will be the most Glorious and Happiest Prince in the World, and they will be Blessed that promotes it, but Unhappiness will attend them that hinders it; for Truth shall overcome the World. The Lord grant that your Majesty may yield to Truth; for that will make you Free; for to serve God is perfect Freedom, but to serve Popery is perfect Thraldom, which the Lord deliver your Majesty from, is the Prayer of

Your Majesties poor Petitioner, Subject, Servant, and Souls Well-wisher

ELINOR JAMES.

O Eternal Creator and Preserver of all Things, grant me Favour in thy Sight, and accept of all my Weak Endeavours, for thou alone knowest the Sincerity of my Heart. Therefore I humbly beseech thy Divine Majesty to make me Instrumental to turn away thy Anger, because thy Wrath is a Consuming Fire, that all may Praise Thee, and Glorify Thee to all Eternity.